

land. The Wrentham records were discovered some years ago by Horatio G. Somerby and are now preserved among the Somerby Papers in the library of the New England Historic Genealogical Society at Boston, while the original letters of Prudence Chickering were found in possession of Mrs. Allen F. Smith of Dover, Mass.\*

Mary Chickering, widow of Henry, seems to have died at Dedham, Mass., January 27, 1668 (Dedham Vital Records), and since she had a child Henry baptized in 1588-9 she must have been nearly one hundred years old at the time of her death.

Among the children of Henry and Mary Chickering were Henry and Francis who, with their nephew Nathaniel, emigrated to New England and settled in Dedham, Mass., about 1635, and Simon who died in England. Francis left no descendants of the

but do goe (illegible) affliction & weakness & being deprived of my hearing in a great measure & soe am hinderd of goeing abroad to heare the word wch is a great affliction to me I desire the Lord would be pleased to sanctifye his hand to me & make up wt I want fro outward teaching of man with the inward teaching of his spirit without wh all outward teaching is nothinge yor friends here all in health & desire to be remembered to you & your wife thoue (un)bee knowne & ye rest of ye ffamiliye, your brother John I hope he is well he is pressed into a man of warr their being warre with France I suppose you doe heare of it in new England I had thought to have sent you a box of (illegible) now at the Esquires Dudly returne from ould England but I could not gitt it ready before his returne but if the Lord spare my life I will take the first appportunity to send you a token of linnen & some money wch I could not now gitt wn yt was (illegible) me, my thoughts are much upon you & your family & I desire to be dayly mindfull of you at the throne of grace that the Lord would be with (you) & yours & blesse you & your ffamiliye with blessings both of the upp & neather spring I am much troubled yt I cannot receive a letter from you yt soe I may heare how its with you & how many Children you have I desire the Lord would sanctifye all his dispensations towards (torn) & helpe you for to Keepe those his tokens wt ever others to the Lord I rest

doe This with my hearty & tender love to you & your ffamily Comitting you & yours  
Your loveing Mother

PRUDENCE CHICKRING

Wrentham August: 9th: 1690:

I pray ffayle not to write me a letter by the first opportunity for I am much troubled that I have not received any letter from you since my Cozen John Chickrings sonne was at my howse at Wrentham wch is neere eight yeares since.

These ffor my loveing & Deare sonne Nathaniel Chickring liveing at Dedham in new Ingland I say in new Ingland with Care

\*Much of the above material relating to the English Chickering was collected and ably set forth by Mr. George W. Chamberlain, Secretary-Treasurer of the Dedham (Mass.) Historical Society, in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register of July, 1916, page 226.